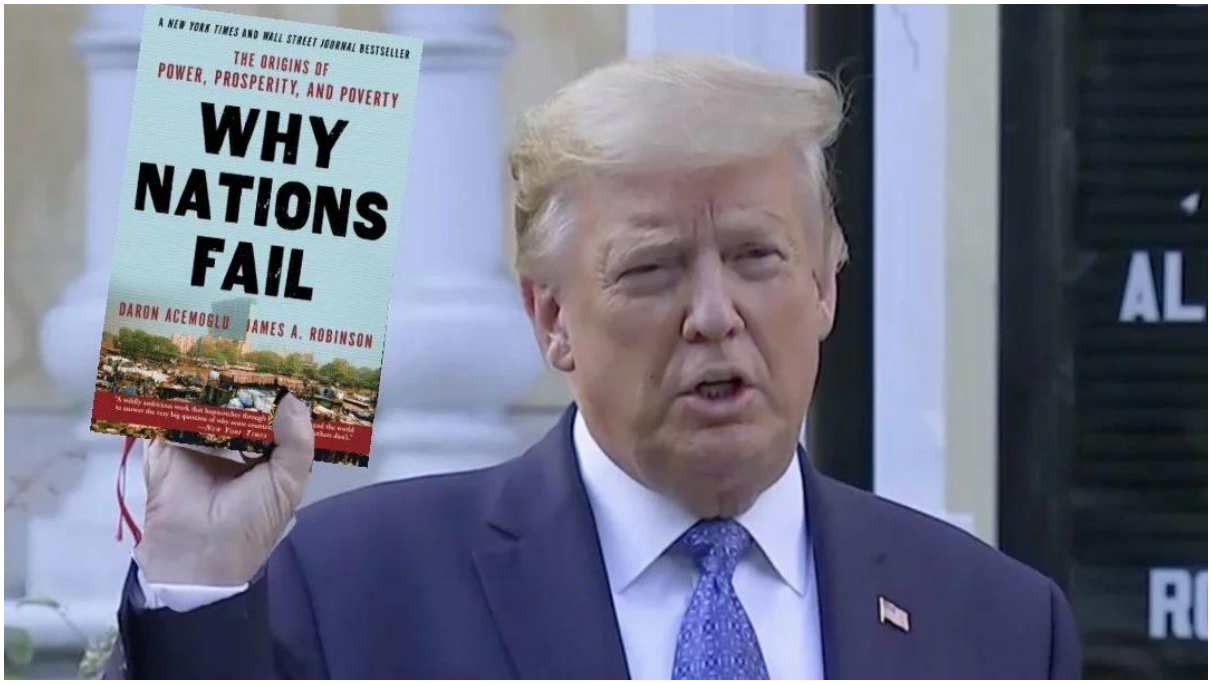

TRUMP CAN'T EVEN CALCULATE HIS OWN TARIFFS

It may come as a complete shock to you to know that the formula the Trump administration used to determine what tariffs to impose on what countries was fundamentally flawed and mathematically wrong.

$$\Delta\tau_i = \frac{x_i - m_i}{\varepsilon * \varphi * m_i}.$$

Trump's erroneous tariff formula

Apart from "X – M" on the top line and the arbitrary M in the bottom line, the other symbols below the line in the formula are redundant and serve no mathematical purpose. Presumably they are only there to make it look more sophisticated than it is. The only two letters used in the equation that are needed are X (Exports in $ from the USA to the other country) and M (Imports in $ into the USA being exports from the other country).

If we look at a real example, the US buys more goods from China than it sells to them thereby creating a goods deficit of $295bn. The total amount of goods it buys from China is $440bn so the total USA exports to China must be $145bn. Dividing 295 by 440 gets you to 67% and you divide that by two and round up to get the tariff imposed on China which is to be 34% (on top of the recently introduced 20%). Hang on a moment though. Why divide by 2 and not 1.5 or 3? Why divide by 440 when a multiple of M might produce higher tariffs? Why divide by M anyway? Why aren't imported and exported services taken into account?

The entire mathematical process is fundamentally flawed and not underpinned by any logic. As the respected Tax Foundation (America's Leading Voice on Tax Policy) states for multiple reasons - "***Trump's Reciprocal Tariff Calculations Are Nonsense***" - https://taxfoundation.org/blog/trump-reciprocal-tariffs-calculations. Minor issues like imported and exported services, other countries' Value Added Taxes and Digital Services Taxes are totally ignored.

The brilliant mathematicians in the Trump Administration who dreamt all this up could have used the number of dead rats in Moscow and/or the number of vampire bats in Pyongyang instead of ε and ρ. Had they done so it would have made no difference mathematically to the order in which countries are listed when comparing the amounts in $ of each country's trade surplus/deficit with the USA.

Who else but Trump would dare put such utter rubbish in front of the world to support abolishing the global trading system and get away with it ... to date? Mind you, what is equally concerning is that many of the world's supposed leading journalists have missed much of this and may need to resit their kindergarten maths exams!

The USA, like every other country on this overcrowded planet, has the right to look after its own interests but not to the detriment of the planet as a whole. Maybe Trump and his flock of disciples should have borne in mind that historically economic warfare has often been the prelude to real warfare and even by itself results in real casualties just as they occur in real warfare.

Trump's proposed tariffs will ultimately ruin millions of hard working people's lives. Trump's tariff proposals have already cost trillions of dollars as a result of stock and other markets crashing all over the planet. What more damage is he going to be allowed to do? Where have America's checks and balances gone to prevent this lunacy?

Trump with his top tariff adviser in March 2025 computing tariffs prior to their publication.